



# USDA TURKEY MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

## NATIONAL TURKEY MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

### DOMESTIC MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

The market tone on frozen 8-16 lb. hens and 16-24 lb. toms was steady. No sales reported. Demand was very light for fill-in basis. Supplies moderate. Bulk parts and meats trading was light and seasonal. Buyers taking a wait and see attitude towards the market and being selective. Supplies generally available.



### EXPORT MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

Trading was light and centered on tom drums and thigh meat. Inquiry light and selective. Interest noted from Mexico, balance of other export centers showing limited interest at current levels. Offerings adequate.

**WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS**, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **DECEMBER 18, 2003**

#### CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/

	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	FORWARD SHIPMENTS 6/ WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER	OPEN COMMITMENTS 7/ VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER
8-16 LB HENS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	63-68	-	-	-	-	-	-	40	DEC
CENTRAL REGION 4/	62-67	67	67.00	20	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	63-69	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	58-59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	57-58	58	58.00	10	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	58-60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS**, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **DECEMBER 19, 2003**

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8-16 LB HENS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	63-68	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	62-67	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	63-69	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	58-59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	57-58	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	58-60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1/ May include product stored at temperatures in range of 1 to 25 degrees F. 2/ Includes product priced for shipment within 14 days.

3/ Includes product with 3 percent broth basting. 4/ Includes product with 3-6 percent broth basting. 5/ Includes products with 6 percent broth basting. 6/ Includes product committed for pricing during the previous 24 hours but shipment in more than 14 days from date of commitment. 7/ Includes product committed during previous 24 hours at prices to be determined at later date.

**WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES FOR WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS**, FROZEN CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS)

WEEK OF DECEMBER 19, 2003	CURRENT WEEK	LAST WEEK	SAME WEEK YEAR AGO	MONTH OF SEPTEMBER	CURRENT MONTH	LAST MONTH	SAME MONTH YEAR AGO
8-16 LB HENS				8-16 LB HENS			
EASTERN REGION	66.10**	68.94	66.60**	EASTERN REGION	61.52	57.74	67.15
CENTRAL REGION	64.20	67.90	66.30**				
WESTERN REGION	68.28	66.00	66.00**				
16-24 LB TOMS							
EASTERN REGION	59.10**	60.84	58.50				
CENTRAL REGION	57.20	60.88	57.00				
WESTERN REGION	61.00	61.40**	60.00**				

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED TURKEY,  
DELIVERED TO RETAILERS**

	<u>RANGE</u>
FRESH TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	107
FRESH TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	107
FROZEN TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	71-74
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	70-73
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-28#	72-80

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED TURKEY  
DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

	<u>RANGE</u>
TURKEYS Y HENS	109-129
TURKEYS Y TOMS UNDER 22#	99-125
TURKEYS Y TOMS 22-24#	99-125
TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-26#	99-129
TURKEYS Y TOMS 26 LBS & OVER	105-130

**FRESH TURKEYS WITH TIMERS OR EQUIVALENT**

U.S. GRADE A DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, EASTERN REGION,  
CENTS PER POUND, WEEK OF 22-DEC-2003

	(8-16#)	(16-24#)		
	HENS	LBS	TOMS	LBS
	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>(000)</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>(000)</u>
SALES (PROMOTIONS INCLUDED)	83.53	4425	70.76	995
SALES (PROMOTIONS NOT INCLUDED)	83.53	4425	70.76	995
SALES (PROMOTIONS ONLY)				
SALES (PRICE TO BE DETERMINED)				

**TURKEY MOVEMENT TREND (IN THOUSAND POUNDS)**  
SLAUGHTER-CERTIFIED RTC TURKEYS

NOVEMBER	421,708*
DECEMBER 1-13, 2003	214,608*
To date 2003	5,426,797*
To date 2002	5,047,489*

\* PRELIMINARY

**NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTS**

BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS WEEK ENDING 13-Dec-2003  
(PRELIMINARY) (RELEASED 12:00 NOON CENTRAL TIME)

		<u>YOUNG TURKEYS</u>	<u>TOTAL TURKEYS</u>		
		PCT	AVG	OLD	AVG
		CHG	LIVE	BANDED	LIVE
		PW	WT		WT
-THOUSAND HEAD-				-THOUSAND HEAD-	
N EAST	947	10	20.94	(A)	948
SATL	771	-9	29.98	(A)	771
N CENT	2,078	-4	31.76	(A)	2,078
S CENT	558	9	19.77	(A)	558
WEST	618	38	20.71	(A)	618
U.S. TOTAL	4,972(B)	3	26.71	1	4,973
TO-DATE					
2003	235,144(B)			605	235,749
TO-DATE					
2002	234,313(B)			660	234,973

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included:

this week 35,000; for the year 3,125,000; last year to date 2,682,000

**LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED**

			W/E 13-Dec-2003		
	YOUNG		YOUNG	OLD	TOTAL
	HENS	TOMS	BREEDERS		
			THOUSANDS		
HEAD	2,132	2,805	35	1	4,973
AVG WT	15.44	35.28	24.84	52.33	26.71
LAST WEEK	1,924	2,841	69	1	4,835
SAME WK YR AGO	2,089	2,780	51	20	4,940
AVG WT	15.35	36.90	26.02	25.63	27.63
TO-DATE/2003	94,729	137,290	3,125	605	235,749
TO-DATE/2002	93,276	138,355	2,682	660	234,973

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**NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT**, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 18 DECEMBER 2003.

The fresh white meat market, especially tom breast meat and destrapped tenderloins, temporarily improved to fair as buyers stepped into the market place to satisfy anticipated holiday processing schedule needs for the next 2 weeks. The fresh white meat undertone was mostly steady for the adequate to fully adequate offerings. The market on frozen destrapped tenderloins improved with increased buying interest being noted at current price levels. The undertone was mostly steady for the adequate to fully adequate offerings. The undertone on the balance of frozen white meat was mixed on breast trim with spot strength noted on unground and barely steady at best on ground, wing meat with skin mostly steady. Demand slow for the available offerings. Trading was heavy on 4-8 lb. breasts for December holiday needs and first quarter 2004 retail ads. Frozen destrapped tenderloin trading was heavy and fresh tom breast meat moderate for December shipments balance light to fair. For domestic (fresh): tom necks 25, wing meat 70-74, scapula 83-87 cents delivered.

DOMESTIC TRADING	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/	89.00-90.00		89.20	600
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A--FRESH 2/	149.00-169.00		152.05	472
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/	83.00		83.00	800
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	43.00		43.00	60
DRUMSTICKS, TOM--FRESH	41.00-44.00		43.19	208
DRUMSTICKS, HEN	43.00		43.00	60
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	38.00		38.00	40
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	41.00-43.00		42.00	40
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN				
NECKS, TOM		W	25.00	20
NECKS, HEN				
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/	112.00		112.00	40
BREASTS, B/S, TOM--FRESH 3/	143.00-145.00		144.45	440
THIGH MEAT		F	86.00	120
THIGH MEAT--FRESH	89.00-93.00		90.11	101
BREAST TRIM MEAT	84.00		84.00	40
SCAPULA MEAT		F	72.00	52
TENDERLOINS				
DESTRAPPED TENDERS	77.00-81.00		80.61	720
DESTRAPPED TENDERS--FRESH	111.00-114.00		111.27	220
WING MEAT WITH SKIN				
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	16.00-16.50		16.25	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED--FRESH 4/	16.00-18.00		17.20	100
EXPORT TRADING				
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	40.00-41.00		40.50	122
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS				
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	15.00-16.00		15.58	172
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	86.00		86.00	80

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.): M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY

2/ Breasts are bagged; rib, back, and wing meat included; and basted.

3/ Boneless and skinless without tenderloins.

4/ 15-20% fat with skin added.

**NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 19 DECEMBER 2003.**

The white meat undertone was mostly steady going into the holiday time period. Demand light. Offerings light to fully adequate and held with varied degrees of confidence. The undertone on tom wings was steady to weak, steady at best on tom drums and steady to fully steady on tom necks. Demand light to fair. Offerings of tom wings were adequate to ample, tom drums adequate to fully adequate and tom necks light at best. The undertone on 4-8 lb. breasts was steady to barely steady. Inquiry light. Offerings uneven. Trading centered on a fair volume of frozen destrapped tenderloins, balance slow. Grade A 8-10 lb. basted breasts traded at 90 cents delivered domestic. Frozen thigh meat +45 days age traded at 80 cents delivered export.

DOMESTIC TRADING	PRICE RANGE	LST CDE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)	WEEKLY	WEEKLY VOLUME (000)
					WTD AVG PRICE	
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/	86.00		86.00	40	89.00	640
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A--FRESH 2/		R	152.05	472	152.05	472
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/		R	83.00	800	83.56	1,000
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	42.00		42.00	40	42.36	224
DRUMSTICKS, TOM--FRESH		R	43.19	208	43.19	208
DRUMSTICKS, HEN	43.00		43.00	60	43.00	120
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	40.00		40.00	80	39.45	188
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN						
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		R	42.00	40	40.00	120
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN						
NECKS, TOM	26.00		26.00	80	25.63	128
NECKS, HEN						
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/	110.00		110.00	80	110.67	120
BREASTS, B/S, TOM--FRESH 3/	145.00		145.00	120	144.57	560
THIGH MEAT	86.00-87.00		86.80	100	86.80	100
THIGH MEAT--FRESH	85.00-88.00		86.57	92	88.42	193
BREAST TRIM MEAT		R	84.00	40	84.00	40
SCAPULA MEAT		F	72.00	52		
TENDERLOINS						
DESTRAPPED TENDERS	78.00-81.00		80.11	360	80.46	1,120
DESTRAPPED TENDERS--FRESH		R	111.27	220	111.27	220
WING MEAT WITH SKIN						
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		R	16.25	80	16.25	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED--FRESH 4/	15.00		15.00	80	16.36	220
EXPORT TRADING						
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	40.00-42.00		41.10	200	41.11	362
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS						
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM						
TAILS						
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	16.00		16.00	80	15.18	488
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	85.00-86.00		85.33	120	85.60	200

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.):

M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY

2/ Breasts are bagged; rib, back, and wing meat included; and basted.

3/ Boneless and skinless without tenderloins.

4/ 15-20% fat with skin added.